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Gp 2611

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

Confirmation Number: 3220

Schlarb, et al.

Group Art Unit: 2611

Serial No.: 09/709,167

Examiner: Christopher R. Nalevanko

Filed: November 10, 2000

Docket No. A-6728 (191930-1400)

For: **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR BROWSING
TELEVISION PROGRAM INFORMATION BY
CATEGORIES ASSIGNED TO CHANNELS**

RESPONSE

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The non-final Office Action mailed December 16, 2004 has been carefully considered. In response thereto, please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks.

AUTHORIZATION TO DEBIT ACCOUNT

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those which may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to deposit account no. 20-0778.

AMENDMENTS

In the Written description

The following is a marked-up version of the claims with the language that is underlined (“ ”) being added and the language that contains strikethrough (“”) being deleted:

For the paragraph beginning on p. 7, line 31:

An additional advantage of assigning categories to channels is that the subset of channels to which a particular category is assigned can be used to limit a program content category search of the program record database to just the subset of associated channels. In one embodiment, only the program records for the channels assigned the MOVIE channel category are searched in the database for programs that have been assigned a MOVIE content category. A listing of the current and upcoming movie show times and associated channels is provided. This provides the same results that current program record category searches yield with the use of less processor cycles. Related to the extensive requirements for searching all of the thousands of program records in a program record database, the terminal 120 can quickly and simultaneously search and process the program records based on the channel table category assignments. In addition, by first accessing a channel table, the processor can increase the efficiency of the retrieval from memory of the program record information by restricting it to search only those records in the program record information database that are relevant to channels assigned the category associated with the current displayed browse banner.